

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/895,978

Examiner

Peter Poltorak

Applicant(s)

AULT ET AL.

Art Unit

2134

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment received on 5/10/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-40.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/13/06
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

Jacques Louis Jacques
JACQUES LOUIS JACQUES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed on 05/10/2006.

Examiner Amendment

2. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee.

The following changes were authorized (and permission to make same by Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given in a telephone interview with Betty Formby on 8/2/06.

3. Please replace claims 1, 20, 29, 39-40 as follows:

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1. (Currently amended) A method for accessing a user registry, comprising:
configuring a plurality of user registries in a given computer system to each receive instructions through a respective adapter and to each provide access to a respective system resource, wherein ones of said plurality of user registries use used by different respective authentication mechanisms and wherein each said respective adapter is configured to receive instructions in a common format; and
sending a registry-independent instruction to perform an operation on a given user registry of said plurality of user registries, wherein, responsive to receiving said registry-independent instruction, a respective adapter translates said instruction from said common format to a format usable with said given user registry to create a

translated instruction, and forwards said translated instruction to said given user registry, wherein said translated instruction is performed at said given user registry to modify access to a respective system resource associated with said given user registry.

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20. (Currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for accessing a user registry, comprising instructions for:

configuring a plurality of user registries in a given computer system to each receive instructions through a respective adapter and to each provide access to a respective system resource, wherein ones of said plurality of user registries use are used by different authentication mechanisms and wherein each said respective adapter is configured to receive instructions in a common format;

sending a registry-independent instruction to perform an operation on a given user registry of said plurality of user registries, wherein, responsive to receiving said registry-independent instruction, a respective adapter translates said instruction from said common format to a format usable with said given user registry to create a translated instruction, and forwards said translated instruction to said given user registry, wherein said translated instruction is performed at said given user registry to modify access to a respective system resource associated with said given user registry.

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29. (Previously presented) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for accessing a user registry, comprising instructions for:

receiving, in a registry adapter that has been configured to receive all communications for a first user registry, a registry-independent instruction designed to perform an operation on said first user registry, wherein said registry-independent instruction is in a common format that is not usable by said first registry;

translating said registry-independent instruction into a registry-dependent instruction and sending said registry-dependent instruction to said first user registry;

wherein said translated instruction is performed at said first user registry to modify access to a system resource associated with said first user registry, and wherein the registry adapter is one of a plurality adapters and the first user registry is one of a plurality of user registries used by different authentication mechanisms.

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39. (Currently amended) A data processing system, comprising:

a bus system;

a plurality of user registries connected to said bus system, wherein each registry of said plurality of user registries is connected to receive instructions through a respective adapter and to provide access to a respective system resource, wherein ones of said plurality of user registries ~~utilize~~ are utilized by different authentication mechanisms and each said respective adapter is configured to receive instructions in a common format;

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit includes at least one processor;

memory; and

a set of instructions in the memory, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the acts of: sending a registry-independent instruction to perform an operation on a given user registry of said plurality of registries, wherein, responsive to receiving said registry-independent instruction, a respective adapter translates said instruction from said common format to a format usable with said given user registry to create a translated instruction, and forwards said translated instruction to said given user registry, wherein said translated instruction is performed at said given user registry to modify access to a respective system resource associated with said given user registry.

40. (Currently amended) A data processing system, comprising:

a bus system;

a processing unit connected to the bus system, wherein the processing unit includes at least one processor;

a plurality of user registries connected accessed through said bus system and each configured to receive all communications through a respective registry adapter, wherein communications are sent to said respective registry adapters in a common format that is registry-independent;

memory; and

a set of instructions in the memory, wherein the processing unit executes the set of instructions to perform the acts of:

receiving a registry-independent instruction in a first registry adapter to perform an operation on a respective first user registry of said plurality of user registries;

translating said registry-independent instruction from said common format to a format usable with said given user registry to create a registry-dependent instruction, and

sending registry-dependent instructions to perform the operation on the user registry and sending a result of the operation.

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Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

4. Claims 1-40 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter.

5. The invention is directed to method and a system with a plurality of user registries used by different respective authentication mechanisms and receiving instructions through respective adapters. The respective adapters provide access to a respective system resource. The respective adapters translate instructions in a common registry-independent format to registry-dependent format and forwards the translated instructions to corresponding registries.
6. The closest prior art, Lloyd et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6219790) disclose a system comprising a plurality of adapters translating a common format instructions to a

system dependent transactions and forwarding the translated transactions to corresponding systems. Although in Lloyd et al.'s invention access to the systems is gain through the respective adapters and in the art of computing systems disclosed by Lloyd et al. frequently comprise registries, Lloyd et al discloses a centralized system access wherein the access is verified prior to sending the instructions to the adapters.

Lloyd et al. do not disclose that "the translated instruction is performed at the given user registry to modify access to a system resource associated with the corresponding registry".

7. In other close prior art X/Open (X/Open Preliminary Specification, X/Open Single Sign-On Service (XSSO)- pluggable Authentication Modules, Published by the U.K. by the Open Group, March 1997) disclose a system comprising a system with a plurality of adapters and corresponding registries.


However, X/Open fails to disclose that "ones of said plurality of user registries use different respective authentication mechanisms".


The prior art, fails to anticipate or fairly suggest the limitation of applicant's independent claims, in such a manner that a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 would be proper. As a result the claimed invention is considered to be in condition for allowance as being novel and non-obvious over prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on statement of Reasons for Allowance".

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Peter Poltorak whose telephone number is (571) 272-3840. The examiner can normally be reached from Monday through Thursday from 9:00 until 5:00, and every other Friday from 9:00 until 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jacques Louis Jacques can be reached on (571)272-6962. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.


8/2/16


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